

Message Text

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ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 IO-11 ISO-00 AID-05 OIC-02 SS-15 SP-02 L-03

COME-00 STR-04 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 XMB-02

INT-05 GSA-01 OMB-01 ABF-01 IGA-02 AGR-05 OES-03

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO USMISSION GENEVA PRIORITY

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: UNCTAD, EGEN

SUBJECT: UNCTAD IV PREPARATIONS

REFS: A) GENEVA 1543; B) STATE 55098, C) STATE AIRGRAM

1285

FOR AMBASSADOR DALE FROM UNDER SECRETARY ROBINSON AND
ASSISTANT SECRETARY GREENWALD

1. THE PROBLEMS AND RISKS OUTLINED IN PARA 1 AND 2 OF REF-
TEL A ARE REAL AND FAMILIAR.

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2. WE AGREE THAT EFFECTIVE GROUP B COORDINATION IS MORE

LIKELY WHEN A MEMBER OF THE GROUP TAKES INITIATIVE ON HOW TO DEAL WITH SUBSTANCE OF ISSUES. NONETHELESS, WE QUESTION WHETHER IT IS DESIRABLE OR FEASIBLE FOR U.S. TO PUT FORWARD TEXTS OF PROPOSALS AS SUGGESTED IN PARA 4 OF YOUR MESSAGE. ALSO, TDB SESSIONS PROBABLY NOT BEST PLACE TO DEVELOP GROUP B POSITIONS. MEETINGS ARE LIKELY TO FOCUS ON AGENDA AND TACTICS AND PARTICIPANTS MAY NOT BE RIGHT PEOPLE FROM CAPITAL.

3. OUR OBJECTIVE AT UNCTAD IV IS TO MAINTAIN AND EXTEND THE MORE CONSTRUCTIVE ATMOSPHERE OF NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS

WHICH EMERGED FROM THE UN 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. IN PURSUING THIS OBJECTIVE THERE ARE TWO KEY ELEMENTS TO OUR STRATEGY. FIRST, WE MUST FOLLOW UP AND IMPLEMENT THE PROGRAM OF WORK CONTAINED IN THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION'S CONSENSUS RESOLUTION, IN PARTICULAR THOSE ELEMENTS RESULTING FROM U.S. INITIATIVES. THE THRUST OF OUR EFFORT AND THAT OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS SHOULD BE TO GIVE SUBSTANCE TO THESE UNDERTAKINGS IN TERMS OF SYSTEMATIC NEGOTIATION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AGREED MEASURES. ONE OF OUR MAJOR GOALS FOR THE UNCTAD CONFERENCE IS THUS TO ASSIST IN THE PROGRESS OF IMPLEMENTING THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION PROPOSALS. SEE, FOR EXAMPLE, AIRGRAM 1285 (REFTEL C) OF MARCH 4 AND STATE 55098 (REFTEL B) OF MARCH 6 DESCRIBING STATUS OF THESE PROPOSALS.

4. SECOND, WE MUST SEE WHETHER WE CAN DEVELOP SOME NEW INITIATIVES IN ORDER TO SUSTAIN THE MOMENTUM OF THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION. WE ARE CURRENTLY WORKING ON SOME IDEAS THAT ARE STILL AT A VERY TENTATIVE STAGE.

5. WE WILL CONTINUE TO GIVE CLOSE ATTENTION TO, AND TAKE ADVANTAGE OF, FURTHER OPPORTUNITIES FOR GROUP B COORDINATION OVER COMING WEEKS, INCLUDING THE OECD EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE IN SPECIAL SESSION, THE OECD AD HOC HIGH LEVEL GROUP ON NORTH/SOUTH RELATIONS, AND THE OECD AD HOC GROUP ON UNCTAD COORDINATION. AS OUR THINKING ADVANCES FURTHER HERE WE WILL SEE WHAT SPECIFIC OPPORTUNITIES FOR LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FURTHER GROUP B COORDINATION CAN BE DEVELOPED THROUGH THESE SESSIONS.

6. WE AGREE THERE IS A GREAT DEAL OF ROOM FOR COORDINATION WITHIN GROUP B ON SPECIFIC ISSUES. GROUP B IS IN AGREEMENT THAT THE INTEGRATED COMMODITY PROGRAM IN ITS PRESENT FORM IS UNACCEPTABLE AND WE HOPE TO REINFORCE THIS WITHIN GROUP B IN THE WEEKS TO COME, PARTICULARLY

IN REGARDS TO THE PROPOSAL FOR COMMON FUND. SIMILARLY WE HOPE TO BUILD SOLID GROUP B CONSENSUS ON THE ISSUE OF DEBT; IN PARTICULAR, THAT A GENERALIZED DEBT CONFERENCE WOULD NOT BE HELPFUL TO CREDITORS OR DEBTORS GENERALLY AND THAT THE CONCEPT OF GENERALIZED DEBT RELIEF FOR ALL DEVELOPING COUNTRIES OR MSA'S IS INAPPROPRIATE. WE CAN ALSO WORK FOR A COORDINATED GROUP B POSITION THAT THE TECHNOLOGY CODE SHOULD BE VOLUNTARY, NOT LEGALLY BINDING, INSTRUMENT.

7. THERE IS A LOT WE MUST DO TO GAIN INFORMALLY FROM

INDIVIDUAL LDCS AND OTHER GROUP B COUNTRIES THE GENERAL DIRECTION OF THEIR THINKING. YOU AND YOUR TDB DELEGATION CAN BE OF CRUCIAL ASSISTANCE TO US ON THIS SCORE.

8. WE RECOGNIZE THAT JOB YOU HAVE AT THE TDB IS NOT AN EASY ONE BUT FEEL THAT YOUR PERSONAL EFFORT IN GENEVA CAN KEEP US MOVING FORWARD CAREFULLY BETWEEN THE TWO EXTREMES OF DAMAGING THE ATMOSPHERE CREATED IN THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION ON THE ONE HAND AND ESCALATION OF LDG EXPECTATIONS FOR NAIROBI ON THE OTHER. INGERSOLL

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